



# Dordt Diamond

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## George W. Bush visits northwest Iowa

by Kristin Hoeksema  
Staff Reporter

"I'm proud to be a Republican, and I hope you are as well." With these words, Governor George W. Bush of Texas began his campaign speech Tuesday, October 26 at Unity Christian High School in Orange City. Governor Bush, a Republican presidential hopeful, addressed the crowd of over 800 people after a dinner catered by the Townhouse of Orange City. The dinner was a short opportunity for Bush to work the floor and meet some of his supporters from this area. Nearly two dozen Dordt students took this opportunity to briefly meet Bush and hear a short speech by a possible future president of this country.

While in Northwestern Iowa, Bush used the time to gain votes for the upcoming caucuses and a possible run for president. Tuesday morning was spent at MOC/Floyd Valley High School where Bush addressed local high school students. Bush spoke concerning the need for what he has termed the "Responsibility Era". Drugs, premarital sex, and alcohol all ruin the chance of fulfilling the American Dream, Bush told the students.

Only a few hours later, Bush stood before the large crowd at Unity and promised that if he makes it to the White House, he will fight to give every child in America a chance at the American Dream. "There are no second-rate children and there are no second-rate dreams," Bush told the audience. Bush spoke on issues such as free trade, the need for a rebuilding of America's military power, education in America, and finally the reasons why he is running for the presidential nomination of the Republican party. Bush spoke to the hearts of Northwest Iowans saying he is "confident in the Iowa farmer" and that he was excited to experi-

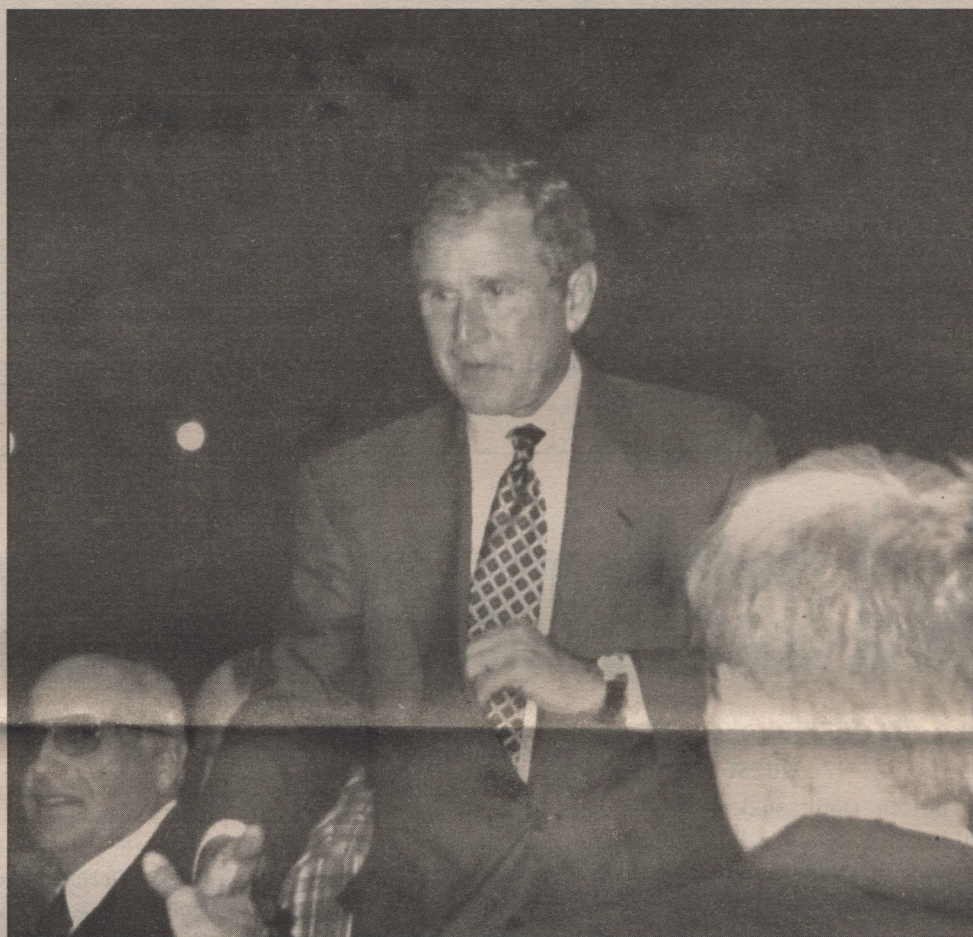


photo submitted

George W. Bush mingles with the crowd at Unity Christian High School.

ence the small town life of Orange City, Iowa. He also promised supporters that if he were to be elected as president, he will "uphold honor and dignity to the office" to which he be elected.

Dordt students came away with a better idea of what Bush stands for and why exactly he is running for president. "Being at this event

made me feel much more a part of the political process. It got me thinking about some issues which will be important in the upcoming election," commented sophomore Amy Vroom, a political science major. All who attended seemed excited to have had the opportunity to actually meet Bush and hear him speak.

## Dr. Skillen encourages action



Andrew Moody

Dr. Skillen discusses abortion with Prof. Don King.

by Jessica B. Clevering  
Staff Reporter

The abortion issue today seems to be at a deadlock with neither

side giving way and many people losing interest. Dr. James Skillen, when speaking in the West Commons to faculty and students, addressed that issue. He discussed how to overcome the apathy shown

towards abortion and reasons the government should be concerned with it.

Dr. Skillen spoke concerning government involvement and its responsibility in the issue. He contended that it has always been the government's job to protect the innocent and that this protection is central to policy making. Since the unborn child is obviously innocent, it is the government's duty to protect it. Although the argument has been going on for decades, people are beginning to realize more and more that the unborn really are innocent humans. As an example, Dr. Skillen mentioned Peter Singer, a professor at Princeton who proposed that the first year of life should be a testing ground for parents and parents can dispose of their children until the first birthday. Because of radical

and shocking ideas like these, people are beginning to see abortion as inhumane also.

"I thought he had an interesting take on the subject," said freshman Julie Van Zee who attended the speech. Dr. Skillen urged pro-lifers to stress the value of a human being's life instead of being strictly anti-abortion. By being concerned with all sides of the abortion issue, their claims would make more sense. Christians' beliefs are portrayed not only through abortion protests but through being actively involved in promoting family stability and improving the quality of life. So many issues are involved in the decision to abort a child that they are often overlooked in the heat of the battle. However, there is still a long way to go in overcoming apathy toward abortion.





# Let's Hug a Linguist (or Two)



Dave and Cindy Lux translate the Bible into the Noni language as they work in Africa. Back row: Cindy, Dave, Joshua (20), Front Row: Caleb (14), Anna (17)

by Allison De Jong  
Staff Writer

Once again it is time for Hug-A-Linguist days at Dordt College. From Monday to Wednesday, November 8-10, there will be a variety of talks and workshops on Bible translation, living cross-culturally, and the challenges of sharing the gospel with people of other cultures. This year's speakers are Dave and Cindy Lux, who have been working since 1989 in Cameroon, Africa, to translate the Bible into the Noni language.

Hug-A-Linguist Days were first held in 1974 for the purpose of exposing students to different ways of life, to the joys and difficulties of Bible translation, and to a wider worldview. Dr. Case Boot, director of the Foreign Language Department, states, "We focus on foreign cultures in all of our language classes. Bible translators are able to bring a unique contribution

about their work, as well as about the cultures in which they're working."

Every year, Dordt brings in one or two translators who are on furlough to talk about their experiences. These translators are very dedicated, hard-working people who have a real drive for their work. "We don't want them to tell us about 'technical' stuff like linguistic patterns, but to instead share how they live—the impact they make on the people they work with," says Boot.

The first session will be on Monday night and there will be five sessions throughout the day on both Tuesday and Wednesday. For those students interested in Bible translation, mission work, or working in any profession overseas, there will be a special session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday night in the Board Room of the Commons.

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## Dordt students attend NATS in Cedar Falls

by Annette Elgersma  
Guest Writer

Thirteen Dordt students traveled to a music event called NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing), in Cedar Falls, Iowa, this past weekend. NATS is "a learning experience because [students] get comments from judges and hear other voices in Iowa, many of whom are performing majors. What are the best voices in our small school are not the cream of the crop," stated Mrs. Pam DeHaan, a teacher at Dordt who judged in Cedar Falls.

This event is also a competition. There are three rounds, which end with only the top performers.

Each singer performed three songs in front of three judges for the first round on Friday afternoon. About three-fifths of the students were then selected for round two, which took place Friday evening. Five finalists were chosen during the second round, and these five were then narrowed down to first, second, and third places. The last two finalists received an honorable mention and a cash prize. The top three also received a cash prize, but did not sing on Saturday in the final round.

Three Dordt students, Tricia Van Ee, Rochelle Van Ry, and Holly Meyer, were selected to move on to the second round.

These young women were part of the 13 Dordt students who traveled to Cedar Falls to participate in NATS. They all felt they did well in their performance, which pleased DeHaan. Six of these students were accompanists, so they were not part of the actual competition but were able to learn by watching other qualified accompanists. Overall, DeHaan was impressed by the performances and was thankful for a learning experience like this for her students. Dordt students will not be making another trip to NATS until the fall of 2001 because next year is a regional competition which will not be held in Iowa.

## Changes in GRE

by Jen Hoogeveen  
Staff Writer

Improvements in technology are consistently being incorporated here at Dordt. The latest change is taking the GRE General test over computer rather than the common paper and pencil test. The GRE is a test over verbal, quantitative, and analytical skills taken by seniors, who are preparing for graduate school. The graduate schools consider this along with the GPA when students apply to their school. The computer version of the test will start with questions that are moderately challenging and from those will make a specific test that meets the individual's needs. If the correct answer is given, the computer will follow with harder questions; if the answer is incorrect, an easier question will be given.

Nate Ledeboer, a biology

major, likes how this program "tailors to your needs." Other advantages he noted were that there was more time when using the computer version, whereas the paper test is timed, and with this new form, you receive your scores right away.

History major Rebekah Vander Pol noted other advantages of taking the test via the computer. She said it was more efficient and the scores can be sent to the graduate schools right away.

Disadvantages VanderPol found was that once a question is answered, the computer won't allow a tester to go back and make changes. She found this more difficult and if she had a chance to retake the test, she would take the paper test. Even though this may seem to cause lower grades, research shows that there is little change in final scores between the computer and paper tests.

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## DDL hosts costume dance



Travis Bonnema

Laura Steensma and Amanda Kopseng watch other dance attendees compete in the evening's costume contest. Costumes varied from Christmas presents to 80's prom dates and even included a Martian with light tubes attached to his bicycle helmet.

by Susan Vandermeer  
Staff Reporter

The Dordt Defenders of Life hosted its annual costume dance this past Saturday night in the gym. Hours of preparation and weeks of planning went into this event.

DDL members were busy Saturday afternoon setting up lights, picking out CDs, putting up decorations, and setting out food in anticipation of the night's dance. Members said the work was worth it, as more than 350 people walked through the gym doors during the course of the night to enjoy the fun.

Dordt students came dressed in an assortment of colors, genres, and time periods, all displaying originality and creativity. "It is worth it to go just to see all the people dressed up. There are so many different costumes! Where do people come up with all these ideas?" While some got their's over the summer vacation, others swarmed the local and Dordt costume shops to find an interesting and original outfit for the night. Some of the costumes included the typical angels, devils, and witches. Other more original costumes included an 80's prom group, aliens, bunches of grapes, and the Candyland cast. Awards were given during the night to those whose costumes were the best and most original, which included prizes to a table and a

Christmas tree scene with presents.

For all those who came who did not want to dance (or couldn't because of their costumes), various games were set up throughout the night, such as the Mountain Dew chug. Although done through straws, which many people found dissappointing, the teams had a good time drinking it all up. Door prizes were given out frequently, thanks to the local businesses.

This year's decorations were new and improved. "We wanted to get away from spiders and cobwebs, the Halloween decorations we have every year," said DDL leader Katy Mentink. Instead of the traditional orange and black, the gym was decorated with various colored streamers and balloons, taking the focus away from Halloween and creating a more open themed costume dance. "I like it better that way and I think that more will attend because of that," said one dance-goer.

The evening collected money for the club in order to attend various conferences and rallies supporting the pro-life movement, as well as activities on Dordt's campus which will be sponsored by DDL. The club is thankful for all those who came out and helped make the night a success. The number of those who turned out was great, the food was quickly consumed, and the music was loud. Those key components made this dance a success.

## Dordt 2000 raises issues

by Allison Schaap  
Staff Reporter

Kristin Vander Kwaak, a student in the Social Work program, said that the Dordt 2000 plan is a great expansion plan, and "in no way do we want to hinder that plan, or bash that plan, or to campaign against that plan because we [social work class] do support Dordt's expansion plan."

Vander Kwaak says the con is that the goals of Dordt's plan is affecting other people. The goals to expand behind Covenant Hall and replace the trailers there with soccer and softball fields leaves approximately 32 families without homes. These families are low-income and they mainly work at the manufacturing plants around the area and have nowhere to go. Dordt has given them adequate notice but we should watch how our goals involving expansion affect other people.

The social work class has held discussions, in which both the student body and the residents of the trailer parks were invited. Vander

Kwaak commented, "The message we got from them [the trailer park residents] is that they are confused. They don't understand why, where, and how they are going to move." The reason the residents did not understand was because the notification to leave was in English and Spanish is the native language of most of the residents.

The social work group knows that there is not oããne solution to the problem, and they are not trying to ask Dordt to scratch the expansion plan. They want to see if they can help the current situation. Vander Kwaak said, "Maybe extend the deadline of when they have to move out or assist them in trying to find a place to live."

Molly Schuttinga, also a student in the social work class, said, "Prayer is important right now...not only for our class and the student body, but also for the people of the trailer parks. Pray for wisdom and more opportunities to help these people. We have to lay it in God's hands."



Andrew Moody

The trailer park residents wonder what their future holds as they search for a new home.

## Goudzwaard: economics in a global context

by Denae Wittmeier  
Staff Reporter

"We meet on the threshold of a new millennium. Every generation stands directly before the face of God," said Bob Goudzwaard at this year's Kuyper lecture.

Goudzwaard, a world traveler and author, was this year's Kuyper lecturer. His topic was Economic Stewardship in a Global

Context.

Goudzwaard talked about the changes in technology and how they are changing our economy. An abundance in information eliminates the scarcity that was once there. Global networking has become a part of our life.

His second point dealt with why "those who stand in Calvin's line should not demonize economic, financial and technical globalization." According to him, the church was and is meant to become global. The church is supposed to reach out into all corners of the world.

Goudzwaard brought up the point that the earth and the fullness of it is the Lord's. Markets, technology and the government should not be seen as threats, because they are part of the fullness of the earth. The

economy should not be hated because all parts of life have to do with God.

Bob Goudzwaard's third point dealt with the process of global finance. He stated that the financial focus is centered around the Western Hemisphere. When financial speculators spot changes, even small ones, in the South, they start moving capital back to the Western Hemisphere so they can be in control.

Some positive aspects that Goudzwaard mentioned were that globalization increases international cooperation. It is also a means for humankind to be connected.

Culture and religion may also be incorporated in globalization. Christianity can break through the hypnosis of the world today. Some of the hypnosis of the world is in commercials that tell us we need more and

more to make us happy. This is the process of creating an artificial need. "The human mind keeps being brought under the control of the necessity to want more," says Goudzwaard.

The five steps of breaking through the hypnosis, according to Goudzwaard, are, "leaving behind childishness in our consumption styles, using the power of withholding in claims we make, transforming expansionist economies into blossoming economies, and breaking through facades and the development of new covenants." Also, it is important to remember that finance is not independent, it affects all of us. We as humans need to make ourselves larger, because we are too small according to our responsibilities of the world today. There are so many responsibilities that we





# Reckless dating can bruise the heart

by Sarah Eekhoff  
Editor



"I'm just going out for fun," one of my friends tried to convince me (and herself). "It's not a big deal. I won't get hurt."

Two months later, I rubbed her back as she sobbed into her pillow and declared she would never speak to another man again.

I have been dating since I was fourteen and have recently come to the conclusion that it is wrong to date anyone that we cannot see ourselves marrying. Furthermore, I believe that it is wrong to date anyone unless you are at the age and

maturity level where a lifelong commitment would be feasible.

The more seriously we see marriage, the more cautiously we should think of dating. If our focus is on the long-term results, then we will save every part of our heart for our future spouse. If, however, our vision is on what brings us pleasure today, then dating for fun is inevitable. It feels good to hold hands and to be desired, but we have to remember that it is only temporary. Is it worth the integrity of our hearts?

To date or not to date, is this the question? What we choose sends a message to everyone we come in contact with. Our decision not to date for fun quickly tells people that we are serious about our marriage and that we will not give ourselves to anyone but God and our

spouse. It shows a mature responsibility and it encourages others to, if not wait with us, at least take another look at their own dating patterns.

Dating inevitably leads to either a diamond ring or a broken heart. The longer the dating relationship endures, the harder the fall and the longer the recovery time. Each kiss that is exchanged, each tear shed, is a part of yourself that you are taking away from your future spouse and sharing with someone who does not belong to you. Those memories are irretrievable and emotions will not fail to rise each time a thought of your ex-boyfriend/girlfriend comes to your mind, even years after your relationship has been terminated. I don't want to share my husband with any girl, even if it is just a

memory of her. Why should I think that he would want to share me?

We belong first to God. He has prepared someone perfect for us and at just the right time he will reveal them to us. When we chase after people that we think will satisfy us, the goal is always selfish. Dating for fun thinks only of us, not of our future spouse, and not of what we are taking from our date's future spouse, not of resting in God's perfect peace. It just makes us feel good right now.

Dating someone that we can't see ourselves marrying also communicates our failure to trust in God's plan. He knows our past and our future, our thoughts and our desires. Shouldn't we be able to trust the God of our salvation who created the world and everyone in it, to reveal who he created us to be

with?

I am not condemning the practice of dating altogether. Some beautiful friendships have been formed through dating. It can teach us invaluable things about ourselves, relationships, and the art of sacrifice. I am only cautioning against dating recklessly. Be cautious about whom you choose to date and ask yourself if staying friends with that person a while longer would benefit your relationship. Be careful with your heart because it is easily bruised. Be careful with your date's heart, because it does not belong to you. And always remember to seek God, because we belong to him first.

## Finding true joy involves resting in God

by Mitch Beaumont  
Assistant Editor



What is true joy? What does it mean to be truly joyful? I've been grappling

with this issue for some time now. I've gone through many different ways of looking at joy and wondering what it really is, and how you get it. I am here to say that I have found the true source of joy and it was right in front of me the whole time!

Not to say I have not been a Christian all these years. On the contrary, I have been a devoted Christian since sixth grade. Since that time I have experienced times of great joy, great sadness, and 'nothingness' in my walk with God. The last few weeks has been one of those 'nothingness' times in my life. It took the careful prodding of a close friend for me to realize that I have been missing out on one of the most important aspects of the Christian life—true

joy.

All those times you've seen me on campus, I've been smiling. That means that I'm happy and joyful right? Sure, most of the time, but there are times when life is not going the way I want it to and I am feeling down. These situations often drain the joy right out of me. So you say, "But can't you have joy while doing the things you love?" Sure you can, but it's not true joy.

So what is true joy? It is described in Philippians 4:13, by the apostle Paul, as living a personal and real life with God. It says, "I can do everything through him who strengthens me." Paul went through as much as any man can go through in a lifetime including being shipwrecked, beaten numerous times, and imprisoned. How does Paul's joy seem so easy and so simple? Because it is.

The simpleness of God's joy is complex yet so easy to understand. Two weeks ago at GIFT, Curt Kuiper had everyone close their eyes and imagine knocking on a huge door and then entering through that door. He had us place our dirty sins in God's hands,

Suddenly I experienced something I haven't known in a long time—freedom. This freedom came seemingly simultaneously with the letting go of my sins, yet it was so hard to let go of them. That seems like such a paradox doesn't it? The end result was so awesome, yet getting to that end result took so much trust that I almost backed out at the last minute.

The joy I have experienced since that Sunday night has been enormous, and it has convinced me that even if I come before him despite being afraid or unwilling to let go of my sins, he will take them away and give me the greatest joy that man can ever know. I urge you, brothers and sisters in Christ, to seek this joy everyday, in every situation you encounter, and in every relationship you are involved in. It will create such a peace within you that you won't be able to remember life without it yet somehow you survived before it. Tough times will come, but those are the chances you have to prove to yourself, and to God, that you have the faith to let Him take care of you.

## Live out your witness to the world

by Brian Wisselink  
A & E page editor

The tenets of Reformational ideology are probably not why most people attend Dordt, and are probably not the reason many people are members of the Christian Reformed Church. However, even in my somewhat limited understanding, I find the basic ideas of a reformational worldview very liberating. We are called to go forth into the world to change it for God,

to bring a Christ-centeredness to all of creation. With a mandate like that, we have tremendous opportunity to be involved in the life the world is living. Unfortunately, I have seen an increasing tendency here at Dordt to turn away from the world and only be concerned with ourselves.

It is very important that we have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, without it, we are nothing. However, a personal relationship

with Christ should manifest itself in more than just attending church services and not watching certain movies. It's an idea that has gotten me into trouble before, but I need to clearly state that I am not attacking Praise and Worship, church-going, or any sort of Bible study; we need them and they are important ways of expressing love for our Savior. What I am trying to say is that our dealings with the world outside of our comfortable

Christian community is profoundly more world-affecting display of our faith.

I often think people don't even try to understand people from outside our Christian circles, and then the gap is widened. A example of this is the Pro-Life movement. I agree with the pro-life movement in protecting the sanctity of all human life. However, not many pro-life members know that a lot of the methods of birth control

destroy the uterus lining so that a fertilized egg cannot attach, causing the embryo to die after conception. The pro-choice movement knows this, and knows also that many pro-life supporters use these kinds of birth control, and know that they aren't living by their own standards of protecting life after conception. Yet we wonder why the charge of hypocrisy is brought against them.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Should we limit our worldview?

by Erin Reilly  
Guest Writer

Explore all forms of expression. I've often wondered if the goldfish on the Dordt admissions poster should be in the ocean looking at the fish bowl, after all, doesn't it say, "Step into a larger world." As someone who has been a Christian for a little more than a year and a half I find that many people almost seem to come here to hide from the world. If something isn't Christian or doesn't meet the Christian status quo through and through (especially when it comes to expression or expressing yourself), it almost always is judged and written off as evil or unnecessary. Well, a lot of it is very necessary.

Here's a little out take of a band I listen to called Propagandi. No, they're not Christian, far from it actually, but have a lot of good points and challenge the way you think and what you believe (can you honestly say that your faith has been seriously tested?). If you're like me then chances are that between 75 to 100% of the expression you consume is made by white, het-

erosexual, middle to upper-class males. Maybe we should be asking ourselves: AREN'T WE BEING CHEATED?? White, heterosexual, middle class males make up a minuscule portion of the people on this planet! Think of all the thoughts and emotions we're missing!

Controversial... no. Open minds create open hearts (and I don't see too many of those around here, in the Christian realm). Explore all forms of expression. I am not saying you should agree with everything you come across or that you should saturate yourself with it, but I am saying you should get educated and see what's out there for yourself. The more you know (Christian as well as secular) the more useful you will be. We have to stop burying what God gave us in the ground and use it to His advantage. Things will only get worse before they get better if we stay in our comfort zone. To just write off any form of expression, be it drama, art, literature, or music. Without investigation or exploration is to write off a part of the human element and gain better a understanding of the world around us as Christians.





## CAs seek unity in their halls

by Laura Apoll

Staff Writer

Community Advisors (CA's) are found in East Hall, West Hall and Southview. They are the people to talk to if your sink is overflowing, your friends are driving you crazy, and everything in between. Just to make you more aware of them, here's a few facts about Tricia De Kok, Brandie Ochsner, and Mark Brink.

Mt. Vernon, Washington, is the home of Tricia De Kok, the CA in Southview. Before the interview began, I glanced around at the posters on the wall. They were all paintings by relatively famous people, and I soon realized this reflected Tricia's interests quite well. During her spare time, she enjoys listening to music such as Dave Matthews, Pearl Jam, Sarah McLachlan, and a few others. "Anything but country," she says.

If homework is too boring or there's nothing else going on, she will turn the TV to Friends, The Simpsons, or The Futurama.

When she's hungry, Tricia goes for Skittles, Diet Coke, and yogurt.

Theater events are Tricia's favorite on-campus activities. As a warning, she says that Christians have to be very careful about going to these events for purely entertainment purposes. After watching a theater event or a movie, she encourages a discussion on what was seen.

On the weekends, she "just hangs out." Tricia doesn't make future plans- she just goes with the flow. She has a brother and sister-in-law in Orange City whom she enjoys visiting. Mostly though, she just relaxes and sometimes she'll do homework.

Something that really bothers Tricia is the misconceptions people have of her. Because she is in an



Travis Bonnema

**Brandie Ochsner, C.A. of East Hall**

authoritative position, they "can't talk about beer" or speak about things that Dordt has policies against. She wants her residents to accept her authority, but not treat her as unhuman.

Unity is the big goal for Tricia in her CA position. During the meetings she leads for East Campus and Southview, she really focuses on trying to unify the two residences. In order to help her be a leader, she refers to Philippians 4:13, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

Disciplining her peers is one of the struggles of her job. Also, she struggles with dealing with students who don't agree with Dordt policies and do not respect those in authority.

Her main challenge is her spiritual growth. Praying in groups has always been difficult for her, but in leading meetings, she has had to face this. However, the experience of being a spiritual leader has been excellent. "Worth the \$30,000," she says.

Brandie Ochsner, from Saranville, Nebraska, is the CA in East Hall. The full kitchen in her apartment suits her well because she loves to bake. Mexican food, chocolate, and fruit are her favorite foods. She also enjoys visiting with



Travis Bonnema

**Mark Brink, C.A. of West Hall**

people, playing piano, and reading.

Contemporary Christian is usually what is playing in her apartment, especially Point of Grace.

There is a TV in her room, but it is rarely turned on. "I don't watch TV, only CNN when I eat," Brandie said.

Brandie's weekends are spent finishing her homework, baking, hanging out, and attending campus activities. Her favorite on-campus activity is G.I.F.T. "It's fellowship and praising God with like-minded people," she says.

"Shoot for the moon. If you miss it, you'll land among the stars," is her favorite quote, originating from a 4-H speech she gave in her younger days.

At 4:15 one morning earlier this year, she awoke to the door alarm going off. Brandie crawled out of bed to find the door propped open with a garbage can. Upon further inspection, she discovered that all the lobby furniture was missing. She called campus security, only to find all the furniture scattered outside.

Brandie's goal for her year as a CA is to build unity among the members of her staff and the building. "Unity stems from our commitment to Christ," she said.

Having the opportunity to get to



Travis Bonnema

**Tricia De Kok, C.A. of Southview**

know so many people has been a joy for Brandie. She likes being involved in their lives and wants them to know that she's there "to listen, and to support if they want to come talk."

Time management and consistency are two of Brandie's struggles. She doesn't enjoy handing out disciplines, and she says it's hard to be consistent in punishments.

Already Brandie feels she has grown in her spiritual life because of her job. "I'm forced to rely on God more because so many people are coming to me for advice, and I don't always have it, so I have to refer to my faith to help others," she said.

In a West Hall apartment full of action heroes, pictures of Abraham Lincoln, and his own artwork, lives Mark Brink from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

With a major in Art Education and a minor in psychology, he hopes to teach high school or work on campuses.

He has shelves full of CDs, proving that he likes to listen to music and he listens to all of it. "Everything from DC Talk to Nine Inch Nails... even Garth Brooks," Mark said.

Along with Tricia, Mark also enjoys watching The Simpsons and

also Two Guys and A Girl.

So what's Mark's favorite food? "Ketchup. Lots of ketchup. For my going-away present from my parents, I got two 60 oz bottles of ketchup," he said. If there's no ketchup, he'll eat pasta and frozen pizza.

Movie club is Mark's favorite on-campus event. He says the discussions are the best part.

Weekends are spent doing "anything but homework." To keep his weekends open, he starts his homework about 9 pm on Sunday night and usually gets done about 4 am. But at least he has his weekends!

"Don't worry. Like this, all things will pass," is his favorite quote, taken from his dad. Mark also likes the Gettysburg Address and includes it in his list of favorite quotes.

A few weird things he has had to deal with was having a couch taken out of the lobby. He finally found it in a resident's room and it was returned later. One night, Mark came back to his apartment to find all the furniture and decorations from his apartment neatly arranged in the Orbit Room.

Mark's goal as a CA is "to create unity among my residents, enhance their college experience, to strengthen and encourage my staff to better serve this campus." He encourages his residents to grow and learn, but to also have fun.

Keeping his apartment door open is a key to making his residents feel welcome to come and visit. "They see me as a fellow student and friend and don't think twice about hanging out for an hour or two."

Mark's appreciation for the support staff at Dordt has grown greatly. Watching them go the extra mile to help out has given him greater joy and respect for these people.

## English class visits home of novelist Willa Cather

by Ryan Vande Kraats

Staff Writer

Five English students and Professor Schaap embarked on a historic journey back through time to explore the beautiful prairie landscapes of Red Cloud, Nebraska—the home town novelist and writer Willa Cather. These neo-pioneers set off on their five hour trek with hopes of gaining new insights into the life of Cather, and to visit the actual locations and landscapes that inspired Cather to write such novels as *O Pioneers* and *My Antonia*, two of her most well known novels.

For the sixth year in a row, Schaap has taken his American Novel students down to Red Cloud, a town of roughly 1200 residents which sits 15 miles from the Kansas border. This years participants, Bridget De Yager, Lynn Schemmper, Sarah Trieck, Ryan Vande Kraats and Brian Wissilink roused them-

selves from slumber at 4:30 in the morning to make the trip into the rugged wilderness of the grassy prairies that used to be home to thousands of buffalo and a handful of industrious and brave settlers who wrestled with the stubborn land, trying to extract from the soil a meager existence. Red Cloud was one of the main railroad stops between St. Louis and Chicago, and many of the settlers traveling from the East stopped in there on their way to the land of opportunity.

The only thing that keeps Red Cloud on the map now is Willa Cather. Every year thousands of fans, students and scholars come to this run down town to see the home where she grew up, the church she attended, and the home of her most famous character, Antonia, a Hungarian immigrant whom Cather had a life-long friendship with. There are a few small museums in the town that try to preserve the memory of one of the great-

est American novelists of this century. Many offer tours of the sites of "Catherland" as well as sell her books and other memorabilia to the visitors.

"It was a good time," says senior Brian Wissilink, referring to the trip. "It was nice to have a chance to get to know the people in the class outside of the class. We had good food, good conversations, it was cool. It was really fun going out into the prairie, to see all that grass. It was something I had never really seen before; and to see the town where Willa Cather grew up made her books seem so much more authentic; they came to life."

After a long day of exploring the roots of a great novelist, as well as the dusty back roads of rural Nebraska, the weary travelers returned home, tired, but satisfied. It was a day of interesting history, lots of restaurant food, great conversation, and a whole bunch. It was an experience worth remembering.



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# Hofland's play exposes students

by Kimberley Lambright  
Staff Writer

Three plays from Brecht's *The Walls Had Ears* will be performed this month under the direction of senior Stephanie Hofland. Each play deals with severed relationships due to the chaos and hatred of World War II and is based on the true stories told to Brecht by people who lived through the war.

In "The Jewish Wife," Ann Du Mez plays Judith Keith, a Jewish woman forced to leave her German husband, played by Brian Wisselink. "I realize that if I stay with him," said Du Mez, "he's going to get fired." "In Search of Justice" deals with the politics and pressures of Hitler and the Nazis that a judge, played by David Schaap, must face.

"I think it's going to make the audience a bit uncomfortable," said Hofland, who is fascinated by this time in history, having recently lived in a European city twice destroyed by the Nazis. She hopes the play will promote a greater awareness of the reality of war-time suffering. "America is a-historical. History's become more of an academic endeavor

than real life."

Between the plays, the audience will hear swing music, an attempt to ensue a club-type feeling. The boisterous swing music symbolizes the struggles happening in Germany and serves as a counterpoint against the staunchness of the Nazis. The rebellious tunes of swing are implemented to heighten the tension and energy of the

play's conflict.

Hofland believes the conflict of Nazi Germany is not foreign to Dordt College. Speaking of the persecution of the Jews, Hofland said, "Part of human nature is to not like people who are different." She thinks the play has an important and relevant message as "even people here on campus get isolated."

## PRESS RELEASE

### Ploegstra and Schotsman to give a recital

SIOUX CENTER, IA: October 27, 1999

Dordt College seniors Sara Ploegstra and Melanie Schotsman will present a vocal and piano recital on November 6, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.

Ploegstra, daughter of Stan and Beth Vanden Berg of Ireton, is majoring in social work along with a vocal performance minor. She has studied for three years in the studio of Mrs. Pam De Haan and will be accompanied on piano by senior Kristin Sybesma. Ploegstra will also be joined by soprano Tricia Van Ee and assisted by Jeremy Jongsma on cello for one of her selections.

Schotsman is majoring in business administration. Her performance will include the final piece of Brahms's Op. 118. She has been studying piano in the studio of Mrs. Mary Lou Wielenga for 3 years. Schotsman is the daughter of John and Pauline Schotsman of Waterdown, Ontario.

The recital will include works of Beethoven, Brahms, Debussy, Faure, Dvorak, and Vivaldi. The public is invited to attend at no charge.

## Theatre arts students experience culture

by Brian Wisselink  
Staff Writer

The Theater Department's annual trip to Minneapolis took the twenty-one students and faculty to two very different theatrical experiences this past weekend. Together with good food, dirty hotel rooms, and a visit to the Walker Art Gallery and sculpture garden, the trip proved to be a very memorable one.

On Friday night, after the somewhat lengthy van ride, we checked into our very...interesting hotel rooms and departed for the Theater in the Round for a performance of Tom Stoppard's classic play "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead." This has been one of my favorite plays for a long time and I was really looking forward to seeing it. However, having seen the movie version a few too many times, the experience was somewhat colored for me. The Theater was also a community-theater, so some of the acting wasn't what it could have been, although the performances of some of the cast,

especially the parts of the Player and Rosencrantz, were performed excellently. The unique qualities of the arena-style theater in the round also added a lot to the play, the theme of the characters being trapped was well played out by having them surrounded by the audience.

On Saturday afternoon, we went to the flagship of the Minneapolis Theater community, the Guthrie, for a performance of their latest hit musical "Martin Guerre." Normally, I am not a fan of the musical as an art form, they promote spectacle over substance and cheap sentimentality over real emotion. However, I must admit, "Martin Guerre" was a treat to watch, those going this coming week on the Gen 200 trip have much to look forward to. The staging of the production was elaborate and engaging, the performances of the cast was dazzling, and there wasn't a bad voice in the whole company. The special-effects were astonishing, at many times distracting, at one

point me and several of my fellow trippers were so engrossed in watching the amazing "burning-house" illusion that when we returned to the action on stage, all of a sudden there was a lot of people lying dead.

"Martin Guerre" still had some of the common musical problems. It grapples with serious issues, in this case with religious conflict and personal jealousy, as musicals like "Show Boat" grapple with racism and "Phantom" with prejudice and revenge. However, the issues usually get swept away by the need for spectacle and melodrama, becoming just background for some kind of melodramatic love-story.

However, that's just my own prejudice about musicals shining through, it really is very worth seeing, worth the standing ovation it got from everyone in the house. For an afternoon of pure escapist theater, "Martin Guerre" fit the bill for a good ending to an enjoyable weekend.

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# Sports

November 5, 1999 - Page 7

## Holwerda finishes as a winner



Andrew Moody

Kelli heads down field at a recent home game

by Rachelle Vander Werf  
Guest Writer

Women's soccer, close to ending their fourth season in history, will lose a few excellent seniors, one of them Kelli Holwerda.

This is Kelli's fourth season of soccer here, but she also played all four years at her high school alma matter, Holland Christian.

Kelli has been an asset to Dordt's soccer team in many different positions. This year Kelli plays mid-field, but in previous years she has played goalie and full-back. Kelli has lead the team as co-captain for the past two years. Another great soccer achievement of hers was making SDIC all-conference, first team.

Besides soccer, Kelli plays on the women's basketball team and is active the FACT club. She has also played on various intermural teams, and she coaches Sioux Center's recreational soccer team.

Kelly is an elementary education major. Next year she hopes to either travel or teach abroad, yet she does not plan to let her soccer experience go to waste. She would like to remain active in soccer by coaching kids' soccer and playing in various leagues.

## Season looks promising for ladies

by Leanne Prins  
Staff Reporter

The basketball season is quickly approaching, with the first home game on Saturday, November 13, but the Lady Defenders are already into their third week of practice, and plans for the new season are coming together.

There are a lot of changes to the roster this year, with five new faces joining the team; four who are freshmen. Krystal Smiens is a 6' 0" center from Chilliwick, British Columbia; Kristen Hoekstra is a 5' 9" forward from Chesterfield, Virginia; Erin

Temple is a 5' 7" forward from Fulton, Illinois; Sandee Alsum is a 5' 7" guard from Randolph, Wisconsin. Gena Wietzema is a sophomore new to the team as well. She is a 5' 5" guard from Sibley, Iowa.

The graduation of the only senior on the team last year, Lisa Roos of Ripon, California, is a big loss to the team. Roos holds many women's basketball records for Dordt, including most rebounds (918), most points (1414), and most blocked shots (210) in her four year career.

Liz Eekhof, sophomore forward said that the team has poten-

tial, but there is a lot of hard work ahead for them this season. This is a faster team than last year's and Coach Len Rhoda plans to capitalize on the speed of this team by establishing a quick offensive game: running the court a lot, especially with the fast break. The specific goals of the team haven't been laid out yet, but making the playoffs for the third season in a row is definitely in the overall plans.

Support the team this year, as they strive to improve on last year's record of 16-10. The season promises to be an exciting one.

## Expectations are high for men

by Kevin Mesman  
Guest Writer

As the snow is coming, and the temperatures are falling I am reminded that another fantastic season of basketball is upon us. As Greg Van Soelen is looking forward to his fifth season at the helm of the Men's Varsity Basketball team, he has great expectations about this years team. And why not, he has four returning seniors, Adam Van Meeteren, Neal Brenneman, Randy Oostra and Jason Maas, who have been with Van Soelen for at least three of the four years of their Dordt career. Michael Ribbons, Jr., Dylan Haak, Jr., Eric Maas So., and Brian Wassenaar So. are also look-

ing to lead the Defenders to a successful season. Dan Beckering, Jr., Matt Van Essen, Jr., and Kelli Van Regenmorter, So. are also looking to make improvements to the Defenders season. Evan Beimers Fr, Sean De Stigter, Fr. and Craig Kootstra, So. a transfer from Ripon, California, are very talented underclassmen that are new on the scene this year. Van Soelen is looking for a very up tempo style of play and with the four returning seniors, leadership should not be a problem.

Coaching with Van Soelen is Wes Fopma, also entering his fifth year at Dordt. They have a career total of 56

wins and 56 loses here at Dordt College. The team's biggest expectation is to make the play-offs this year.

This years Junior Varsity team is head coached by Kevin Van Engen, who moved to Northwest Iowa from Michigan two years ago. He coached at the varsity high school level before with some assistants, but this year he is all by his lonesome. Kevin is also an assistant coach, for the mens varsity team.

The men play at Northwestern, Varsity and JV, On Wed. November 10, JV play at 6:00 and the Varsity at 8:00. Come out and see the men's opening game of the season.

### SOCCER

#### MEN

Record 7-9

Oct. 27 vs. Sioux Falls 2-1

Goal Leaders:

Ben Bieri, Travis Burgers

Assist Leaders:

Paul Mortlock, John Hansel

Oct. 30 vs. Huron Univ. 1-2

Goal Leaders: Travis Burgers

#### WOMEN

Record 12-4

Oct. 19 vs. Hastings 2-0

Goal Leaders: Kalie Gaskill

Assist Leaders:

Sarah Vriend, Erin Staal

Oct. 23 vs. National American 1-2

Goal Leaders: Meghan Graham

Assist Leaders: Kalie Gaskill

Oct. 23 vs. Carroll 1-0

Goal Leaders: Liz Dykstra

Oct. 30 vs. Huron Univ. 2-3

Goal Leaders: Meghan Graham

Assist Leaders: Kalie Gaskill

Nov. 1 vs. Briar Cliff 7-1

Goal Leaders: Kalie Gaskill

Assist Leaders: Liz Dykstra

The NAIA Region II

Independent Playoffs for

men and women began Nov.

1 and continue until the

championship on Saturday,

Nov. 6. Dordt men are cur-

rently ranked fifth and the

women are ranked third.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Oct. 23

Mount Marty Invite in

Yankton, SD

#### WOMEN

6. Dordt

Individual:

29. Tabitha Vander Wilt

40. Rebecca Demarest

46. Beth Richards

48. Lorealee Bykerk

51. Carolyn Cramer

#### MEN

4. Dordt

Individual:

7. Jeff Summerhays

16. Jon Vander Kooy

29. Matt Van Essen

36. Greg Van Dyke

41. Jim Dekkers

On Friday, Nov. 5, the cross

country team will travel to

Spearfish, SD for the SDIC

Conference meet to deter-

mine if they will continue

on to Nationals this year.

### HOCKEY

October 22 & 23:

Minnestoa State University

@ Mankato

Friday: 0-5

Tim Hoogland- goaltender

Saturday: 3-13

de Lange- 2 goals

Tim H.- goaltender

October 29 & 30: University of

Iowa @ home

Friday: 5-12

Boskers- 2 goals

Tim Hoogland- goaltender

Saturday: 3-8

Franklin Guillaume- goaltender

### VOLLEYBALL

Oct. 19

Huron 3-0

Oct. 22

Midland Lutheran 3-0

Oct. 23

Hastings 1-3

Oct. 26

Briar Cliff 3-0

Oct. 29-30

St. Francis Asics "Big Guns"

Tournament

Overall 2-2

St. Francis 2-3

College of St. Mary 0-3

Bethel 3-1

Madonna 3-0

During the St. Francis tourna-

ment, Dordt posted some great

stats. Kim Van Dyken finished

with 217 assists, Karen Netz and

Andrea Johnson led the team with

65 and 43 kills respectively. Darci

Bouma contributed to the defense

with 38 digs. A.J. Poppema and

Van Dyken had 27 digs as well.

Dordt's record is now 25-7 with a

conference record of 7-0.







# Y2K influences change in AMOR sites

by Rose Ann Vander Wal  
Staff Writer

This year's Christmas mission trip to Nicaragua has been scrubbed because of Y2K.

As a result, there have been major changes in the plans of Dordt's mission group, A Mission OutReach (AMOR). Every year for part of Christmas break groups of Dordt students have traveled to

Nicaragua and various other foreign locations for mission trips. This year it will be different.

AMOR coordinator Pastor Don Draayer said travel concerns were not an issue in the cancellation. Dordt simply felt it would be unwise to send a group of students' into an unstable country when there are many threats of unrest because of the

Y2K issue. The decision was then made to not send any groups outside of North America over Christmas break. This way no students lives or safety will be jeopardized.

Dordt is looking at several alternatives to working in Nicaragua. One plan is to send a group to Mexico over Christmas.

Another idea is to send a

team to Nicaragua and another to Haiti over Spring Break. In the past AMOR has not traveled to Haiti. It is a relatively new idea and AMOR is looking at what they can do for the Haitian residents in conjunction with senior Travis Bonnema's parents who are already there.

At a meeting on Tuesday, the alternatives were accepted by students who want to go on

AMOR. Students have tentatively separated into groups, according to which country they wish to work in.

Those who have expressed interest in going on AMOR have until November 15 to commit to going.

Any students with questions or concerns can contact Pastor Don Draayer in the SUB.

## News Briefs

by Matthew McNatt  
Staff Writer

### Russia

The Russian army continues to wage war against separatist province Chechnya, which has incurred many civilian casualties. Late last week, a powerful explosion killed 140 people in an open-air market in Chechnya. As many as 10,000 Chechnya refugees crowd the border but are not being allowed to cross. Meanwhile, partly thanks to tight press controls, Russian support for the war against Chechnya remains high.

### Canada

Canada is expected to have a (US) \$45.5 billion budget surplus by the end of fiscal year 2004 barring a major economic disaster. Finance Minister Paul Martin told Parliament that he will propose a multi-year strategy this spring to ease Canadians' tax burden, one of the heaviest in the developed world.

### Hawaii, U.S.A.

A Xerox employee opened fire at his office in Honolulu this past Tuesday, killing seven. The alleged gunman, Byran Uyesugi, has been a Xerox employee for the past 15 years, but he was scheduled to lose his job. According to press reports, Uyesugi owns a collection of 17 guns.

### U.S. Government

As votes are tallied from off-year elections this past week, Democrats appear likely to win two of every three top political prizes. Republicans gained control over the Virginia senate and house for the first time, but Democrats gained many important mayoral posts across the country.

Information for these news briefs was culled from the *Christian Science Monitor* and other fine online news sources.

## Cyclone rips through eastern India

by Anna Young  
Staff Writer

This past Friday, October 29, 160 mile per hour winds ripped through the eastern part of India affecting nearly 10 million people, destroying their homes and flooding their lands. This is only one of many cyclones that has ravaged the country, particularly the eastern coast, which is especially susceptible to such storms because of its location on the Indian Ocean.

This cyclone, however, unlike the majority that hit India, has been labeled a supercyclone because of its intensity and massive size.

It is approximated that 1.5 million people are homeless while at least 100,000 more homes are damaged. The death count is up to 232, but it is expected to rise increasingly over the next couple of days and has even been predicted to be somewhere in the thousands.

In Orissa, the state worst hit, the chief minister,

Girdhar Gamang, after taking a two hour aerial survey, said that all he had seen was water upon more water. No trees, no houses, no villages. Just water.

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has declared a three billion rupee (\$69million) rescue package and thousands of rescue personnel have already been deployed. Helicopters have been air dropping food parcels to those who are suffering the most. Daniel Lak, a correspondent for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), says there is even talk of seeking international support for the crisis by some prime ministers.

While the leaders of India debate about how to manage an unmanageable situation, the survivors begin the long road of rebuilding their lives, sorting through their villages, and burying their dead. This is all done with water splashing at their knees and hunger stinging their stomachs, reminding them, haunting them, of what's being called the storm of the century.

## Witness: Let your actions speak louder than words

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Any possible understanding must come from our willingness to look at and understand where those people from the other side of fence are coming from, and what motivates them. Contrary to some people's viewpoint, non-Christian does not mean anti-Christian, there are many out there who simply haven't seen or been shown the relevance of God and the joy of knowing His Grace through the death of his Son. We are not going to show them that relevance and joy by staying in our own little circles condemning what is "out there." People out there are struggling to find meaning, people are crying out for help in a seemingly hopeless world. We can't blame them for not choosing Christianity when, to

many people, Christianity is just another one of dozens of groups promising meaning, and who seem more concerned with condemning those who aren't like them than showing the joy and freedom that being a Christian really is.

We don't have to be afraid of the world. If we have that strong foundation in a relationship with our Lord, we should be present through all of it, telling people the good news, not by blasting it in their face, but by presenting them with lives of love and care for our fellow struggling human beings. We need them to know that we are not saved by the way we live, we are saved by how we love. Love humanity, embrace it, don't hide behind moralistic slogans that drive those who most desperately need that love away.

## Hug-a-linguist day schedule

### Monday, November 8

■ 6:30 p.m. -- The Work of Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Video: *The Word Like a River*

■ 5:30 p.m. -- Special session for students interested in Bible translation, missions, or work in any profession overseas

### Tuesday, November 9

■ 9:25 a.m. -- Working With the Noni People of Cameroon, Africa

■ 11:00 a.m. -- Chapel: Janneke Vanderkooy, God's Tool in Cameroon

■ 11:40 a.m. -- Bible Translation and Life Transformation

■ 1:35 p.m. -- The Changing Paradigm in Bible Translation: Training and Partnership With Nationals Training Godly Partners

### Wednesday, November 10

■ 8:00 a.m. -- The DimDims Make First Contact With the Weawis: Simulation

■ 9:00 a.m. -- Living Cross-Culturally

■ 11:00 a.m. -- Lunch & Debrief

■ 12:00 p.m. -- How Will They Read His Word? Focus on Mother Tongue Literacy

■ 1:00 p.m. -- What is God Saying to You?

\*All sessions are in the West Commons except for Monday, which is in C160, and the special session on Tuesday night, which is in the Board Room in the Commons.



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